

# THE RIO NEWS.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 24TH, 1895.

NUMBER 52

**WILSON, SONS & CO.**  
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2, RUA DE S. PEDRO  
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Capital paid up.....	1,350,000
Reserve fund.....	600,000

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PARIS: 16, Rue Halévy.

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Subscribed capital.....	£ 1,500,000
Realized do.....	1,000,000
Reserve fund.....	900,000

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Idem paid up.....	500,000
Reserve fund.....	800,000

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for sea-sickness.  
I used it recently on a voyage and found  
it most efficacious. Rio de Janeiro, 18th Au-  
gust 1895. — E. RICHARDSON.

From the Buenos Aires Herald, Nov. 27.

## THE VENEZUELAN QUESTION.

There is a very general interest among the people  
of Great Britain concerning the relations be-  
tween Venezuela and the British government, and  
more especially the statements and sensations  
have been put in circulation in which the press is  
by no means guileless. Perhaps it would not be  
interesting to recapitulate the chief points in the  
case.The present dispute between Great Britain and  
Venezuela is a very long standing. It dates back  
to the year 1814, when, by the treaty of Paris,  
England acquired the Dutch possessions of Demara-  
ra, Essequibo and Berbice; with regard to De-  
marara and Berbice no question has arisen, but the  
Essequibo being a river the Venezuelan have  
questioned whether both banks were in the pos-  
session of the Dutch at the time of the surrender  
of this colony, in 1814. The British view is  
that the frontier acquired by England in 1814 is  
marked by the extreme limit of the watershed of  
all rivers flowing into the Essequibo, but between  
this limit and the so-called Schomburgk line, En-  
gland is willing to put the definition of the boundary  
to arbitration.The Schomburgk line was defined by Sir R.  
Schomburgk in 1840 as one which divided about  
equally the territories in dispute between the gov-  
ernments of Great Britain and Venezuela. In 1850  
a convention was entered into by the two govern-  
ments in regard to the disputed area as neutral ter-  
ritory, in which, pending the decision of their mutual  
claims, no encroachments should be made on  
either side. Breaches of this agreement on the  
part of Venezuela have, from time to time, taken  
place, and Venezuelan settlements have been  
effected on the British side in the neutral area. British  
and Venezuelan outposts have met upon the op-  
posite banks of the Cuyuni river, which forms a  
portion of the Schomburgk line, and, encouraged  
by impunity, a Venezuelan post lately rushed  
across the river and the line into territory pro-  
claimed in 1850 as definitely British.In the early part of this year a small force of  
British police having been instructed to remove  
the Venezuelan flag, the British police officers were  
arrested by the Venezuelan authorities, and carried  
into Venezuelan territory. After an explanation  
the British police officers were liberated and sent  
back. The act of the Venezuelan authorities is,  
however, one for which the British government  
naturally expects that reparation shall be made,  
and the fact that such aggression was possible  
upon British soil is in itself sufficient indication  
of the urgent necessity for a speedy settlement of  
the boundary question. It is, however, only with a  
view to obtaining reparation for the recent outrage  
that Lord Salisbury addressed an ultimatum to the  
Venezuelan government.It will be seen that there are involved in the  
case two distinct points, one of boundary, which  
could and should be arbitrated, and outrages on  
England's flag and subjects—a matter upon which  
no arbitration could be made or demanded. The  
demands so made by Lord Salisbury refer to the  
latter and do not cover the question of bound-  
ary. In addition to all this, we learn that on  
October 20 last a Venezuelan coastguard vessel  
signed the English schooner *Myosotis* and started  
in pursuit. The coastguard fired on the schooner  
and the master Thomas Garcia was killed.The schooner having been overhauled, the  
officers of the Venezuelan vessel made an examina-  
tion of the cargo, and having found that no contraband  
was being carried, allowed the vessel to  
proceed on her course.The *Myosotis* was on a voyage from Port of  
Spain, Trinidad, to Margarita. The *Myosotis*  
hoisted the British flag, but nevertheless, when at  
close range, the Venezuelan coastguard opened  
fire, with the result that Mr. Garcia was shot and  
killed. The Venezuelan vessel thereupon towed the  
British schooner to Caranum, where she was  
sent back.Prior to this affair Mr. Garvin had visited  
Caracas, where he defended and won an action at  
law. His decision has been reported to the officials  
at Trinidad, and the details of the affair are now  
in their way to London.These differences between England and Vene-  
zuela are simple and there is no reason why they  
should prove menacing. First, there is the bound-  
ary dispute which has been going on for half a  
century or more. Such disputes, when the parties  
to make are unable to agree, are generally  
settled by arbitration. Then there is the case of  
alleged wrongs committed against some British  
subjects nearly a year ago by the Venezuelan  
authorities. It is for these that Lord Salisbury  
now demands satisfaction on what has been called  
his latest ultimatum. Such alleged wrongs and con-  
sequent demand for reparation are of common  
occurrence, and in the end are usually settled with-  
out any breach of international relations.With this latter dispute it does not appear that  
the United States has any concern or that it has  
taken any notice of it. Two or three months ago  
Secretary Olney sent to Lord Salisbury a despatch  
in which it was understood that arbitration was  
suggested as a desirable means of settling the  
boundary dispute, and the Monroe doctrine was  
referred to as being on the case.Although somewhat vague, the Monroe doctrine  
has long been held by a large part of the American  
people in a sort of national reverence. As applied  
to a conquest of American territory by a foreign  
monarchical power, or any important extension of  
such power on the American continent, it has  
force; but to use it up and bid heretofore every time any  
European nation has a trivial dispute with some  
South or Central American republic over a bound-  
ary question involving a few miles of territory in  
some alleged wrong to an individual, is a Jungu-  
insane.—A contributor to the Buenos Aires Herald  
writes:—After travelling around the globe it  
was reserved for me to find Buenos Aires a city in  
which unscrupulous females are usually assisted by  
wits and looks and gestures. In no other per-  
son have I seen such cowardly conduct  
and if I should have to swing some day for mar-  
auding a boat which I catch at that game, I shall  
consider it a not inglorious end of my earthly  
career.

## RIVER PLATE ITEMS

—Gold is again going up at Buenos Aires.

—The new Argentine archbishop was recently  
robbed of jewels valued at \$40,000. The thief  
was captured.—The Bolivian minister at Buenos Aires, D.  
Julio Mendizábal, and his 1st secretary are both in the  
suspended for creating a scandal at a foreign  
capital in the discharge of their official duties.—The Argentine government is said to be nego-  
tiating for another £100,000. How beautiful  
all that talk about this movement now sounds, by  
the light of subsequent disclosures!—Recent telegrams from Buenos Aires note the  
rapid recovery of President Urquiza who is now  
in the mountains near Corrida. It is expected  
that he will return to the capital and reassume the  
presidency about January 15th.—A Montevideo telegram of the 12th says that  
the boards of health there and at Buenos Aires are  
submitting authority to subject shipping arrivals  
from Brazil to detention in "observation." It  
is quite what we expected. It will require some-  
thing more than talk to compel these boards to  
give up quarantine.—St. Gratin, director of customs, has gone to  
the frontier, to enquire into the charges made of  
robberies of live-stock committed by bands of  
armed men and to come over from Rio de Janeiro  
fact that the cattle are taken across the frontier  
without paying duty seems to have affected the  
authorities far more deeply than the robbery.—  
Montevideo Times, Dec. 5.—Contary to the ordinary notion of scatology,  
it is said by constitutional doctors to be a more  
violent epidemic than those more known. Cholera  
and yellow fever, although they are more feared  
by people, are not so dangerous as scatology, as a  
greater percentage die of those attacked by scar-  
latina die than those who are attacked by cholera.  
This ought to make the people realize the gravity  
of the danger which there is in this disease. Yet  
it is spreading at an alarming rate, and the sani-  
tary authorities have done practically nothing to  
stop its advance.—Times, Buenos Aires.—The preliminary plans for the two transports,  
to be built for service along the southern coast,  
are being drawn up by the marine department.  
As soon as they are finished they will be sent to  
the Argentine minister in London, Dr. De-  
launay. The transports will have a capacity of 50  
first class and 200 second-class passengers, besides  
having both so as to serve for marine transports,  
and for carrying horses. Proposals will be asked  
from contractors in England, Germany, France  
and the United States.—Times, Buenos Aires.—The national government has just received  
some splendid samples of coal sent by Colonel  
Gudoy, governor of Tierra del Fuego. The coal  
is from an island some 200 miles south of Cape  
Horn, and it seems that the whole island is one  
vast coal field. Last month an expedition left this  
part under command of Captain Nones of the  
Argentine navy for this island; he was accom-  
panied by Captain Hope T. Malhall, formerly of  
the ironclad *El Plata*, so that it is probable we  
shall soon be able to give our sailors full particu-  
lars of this wonderful coal island.—Buenos Aires  
Standard.—An advertisement from the central police  
office announces that \$64,000 has been set apart  
for the total payment of the deficit owing by the  
city for the period 1894-95, to be paid in monthly  
instalments of \$3,000 each, payable on the 10th of each  
month, commencing with December, and to be  
debited to the sundry expenses (contingents) of the  
ministry of finance. This refers to the notorius  
"Albela deficit," the real amount of which is  
believed to be some \$80,000, and which is  
believed to have been incurred by illegitimate expenses  
in the elections of 1893 and 1894.—Montevideo Times,  
Dec. 3.—The frozen meat company in Barracas is said  
to be in the most ill-doing state. The business-  
like manner in which it is managed is very con-  
trary to the company, and their industry is one of  
the most valuable in the republic. They have  
just enlarged their deposits in Liverpool, and are  
about to receive an installation of new machines in  
Buenos by means of which they can cure 4,000  
sheep per day. In the week past they were able  
to load two ships with their products alone. In-  
dustries of this kind, are a source of incalculable  
wealth to the country and are the most solid signs  
of progress.—Times, Buenos Aires.—A formal denunciation was recently made in  
the powers in the effect that certain of the legisla-  
ture, after making their ill-money (debtative  
salaries) to the purchasers of salaries, evade the  
obligation by themselves collecting the salaries in  
advance by means of "treasury orders," drafts.  
This is by no means the first time that this shady  
proceeding has been hinted at by the press, but on  
this occasion it seems to have touched the dignity  
of the deputies, and there is considerable talk of a  
formal enquiry being ordered. If this is done, it  
will provide a nice complement to the Bahigias  
Calveite affair, still in process, and the present  
chambers will have the credit of affording the  
country yet another scandal.—Montevideo Times,  
Dec. 1.—Yesterday's *Siglo* makes some serious state-  
ments respecting the approaching purchase of  
armament. Beyond one meeting of military offi-  
cers at which nothing was decided beyond an  
agreement on the necessity for a repeating rifle,  
and which ultimately resolved itself into a cham-  
pagne banquet, the government has made no  
pretence of consulting the military experts on the offers  
and before it, neither has it had any official trial  
made of the Brazilian Mauser rifle which it is said  
it have decided to purchase. Nevertheless the  
government is alleged to be about to sign a con-  
tract for the purchase of these rifles, with the Bel-  
gian consul Mr. Amiel, at the price of sixteen dol-  
lars each, although it has received offers of the  
same rifle for other quarters at \$12.40 and \$12.75  
each! It requires no technical knowledge of the  
matter to condemn and denounce this contract  
of the government.—Montevideo Times, Dec. 6.

—The Bolivian minister, Señor Mendez, has had a very disagreeable incident with his secretary, Sr. Mirco. The latter had been guilty of suspicious conduct already on previous occasions, whilst secretary to Sr. Telam Zelaya. He has now been found guilty of abstracting important documents, and preventing letters and dispatches from being sent to his government. Sr. Mendez is very excited over the affair, and says that he will take very decisive measures. For our part we cannot understand why a man, who has already on previous occasions misbehaved himself, should be re-instated in such an important office as secretary of legation. —*Times*, Buenos Aires, Dec. 8.

—From latest statistics it appears that there is a great decrease in the amount of wheat sown in Entre Rios this season over last, some forty thousand hectares less being put under the crop this year than in 1894. There is a small increase in the area put under flaxseed, which, however, has suffered considerably from various causes, but not so much as the yield. Less than last season's. Sr. R. Keskowski, a wheat broker of Rosario, calculates that 1,839,598 hectares are under cultivation in the province of Santa Fé, of which 1,162,000 hectares are under wheat. Calculating that each hectare will yield nine quintals of a hundred kilos each, this year's harvest should give 1,045,890 tons of wheat. —*Sport and Pastime*, Buenos Aires, Nov. 13.

—The note sent by the directors of the Banco de la Nación to the minister concerning the federal judges is full of the gravest accusations against the latter. The managers of the bank have repeatedly declared that it was useless to petition to any of the judges to apply the law to the recovering of debts, as the judges will not even listen to any initiative proceedings, and a year or two passes before they lay an embargo on creditors. The latter therefore have plenty of time always to transfer their properties and to elude the pursuit of justice. If this be true, as is not at all improbable, it only shows that the judges are like most of the officials of the land, men who hold their posts only for their salaries and have no intention of doing any work in return. —*Times*, Buenos Aires.

—It turns out to be perfectly true that some of the tramway lines keep then drivers and guards on duty for 17 and 18 hours at a stretch, allowing them have 20 minutes for breakfast and lunch. This is sheer slavery, and we are not surprised at their resolve to strike against such monstrous hours of labour, and we expect the managers of the public would sympathise with them. The Colonia Tram Company has forestalled the strike by reducing the hours of service to 14, and at the same time making a slight advance in the wages, a procedure which has been much appreciated by the men. We also hear that the Union Tram Company has expressed its readiness to make a reasonable concession. But some of the other and minor lines are determined to show fight, and are in the look out for other employees in case of the inevitable strike. One or two of them, it is said, have gone to the extremity of dismissing, without notice, the men who have joined the union. —*Montevideo Times*.

—An Argentine inventor of a submarine vessel is being brought before the public. He is a young man and said to be a very smart and able engineer. We have not seen the plan of his diving monster, but it is said that the commander of a foreign man-of-war has seen it and gives the greatest encouragement to the young Argentine. He declares that he is so sure of the success of the new invention that he will not hesitate to go himself with the young inventor on the first submarine trial. The inventor had before asked the minister of war to appoint a commission to investigate the matter, but that active official had so much to do that he did not even deign to answer. We pity the young man for this, as we have some inventions on hand that we would like to have endorsed by the public for the last decade, but found no one to back them. Inventors, like poets, have a hard time in this life. We call the attention of the public to this fact, and having done so feel our conscience at ease. —*Times*, Buenos Aires.

—The Yarrow firm have received an order from the Argentine government for four torpedo boat destroyers of the *Sokol* type to attain a speed of 30 knots. The cruiser *Buenos Aires*, which is awaiting trials under forced draught, was built at Elswick, and is similar to those cruisers which have been constructed for the Japanese and Chilean governments. On actual draught trial, extending over six hours, the speed was 23½ knots. The six men-of-war will run at speeds varying from 21½ to 23½ knots. The vessel is 424 feet long over all, 47 feet 2 inches beam, and displaces 4,740 tons. She is fairly well protected, and the compromises in her design have excited considerable notice in view of the high speed—24 knots—being expected under forced draught, when the power is to be 12,000 h.p. As a fighting machine she is far behind our *Torpedo* or *Andromeda* class, the vessels building on the Clyde and at Barrow. The Argentine boat has ordinary tubular boilers, the tubes being fitted with screw ferrules. —*Transport*, Nov. 30.

—The *Rio News*, in the article we quote elsewhere, makes a warm enquiry of a trip to the River Plate as a physical "pick-me-up" for the exhausted by the tropical climate of Brazil. The idea is a sympathetic one, but, as our contemporary points out, it would require a reduction of steamer fares before it could be carried out to any great extent. Certainly there are few places, if any, more fit for such a purpose than Montevideo, which is already to a certain extent the sanatorium of energetic Buenos Aires, and which offers the additional advantages of sea-bathing. But unfortunately the high cost of living here is a great and in some cases an insuperable bar to tourists and visitors, and the government seems bent on increasing this drawback, which will be fatal to its as to all the other interests of the city. A few more additions to the cost of living, such as the government and the municipality have lately proposed, and only millionaires will venture to visit this city, and they will not stop long. Then, perhaps, our government will be pleased with the results of their handiwork. —*Montevideo Times*, Dec. 4.

—On the other hand, the reports from Uruguay are far less satisfactory. The government is in bad odour. It is said to be contemplating additional taxes. The taxation is already very heavy, and an addition would press greatly upon industry. Trade is slack, profits are small, and there is a general complaint. There is a rumor, too, that the government is once more trying to establish a national bank, and that it has two agents now in London working for that purpose. But they are not of a character to command much confidence here. There is another report, to the effect that the government is trying to borrow in London. If it is well founded, we hope that no more credit will be given. —*Statist*, London, Nov. 30.

—A very important cabinet council was held on last Friday, when the question of the post works was finally settled. The proposals of Messrs. Malet and Sons in regard to the works were accepted. This firm engages to build two dry docks near the north basin at a cost to be in accordance with the outlay. Messrs. Malet only ask that the staff of engineers be paid by government. For themselves they merely ask for cost price. The works are to be pushed ahead with all vigor as soon as possible. Along the line, Congress has voted \$6,400,000 m/a gold to complete the north basin, the dock No. 4, warehouses, streets, bridges, locks, buoys, etc., etc. Messrs. Malet must do all this and build two graving docks also by special contract. The national government is at liberty, specially stipulated, to contract with any other firm for any additional works that may be deemed necessary beyond those specified above. Payments shall be made to Messrs. Malet as to be in part advances and at the rate of \$1,600,000 per annum. The contractors pledge themselves to finish the works inside of two years. —*Southern Cross*, Dec. 6.

—Strikes are the order of the day at present in Buenos Aires. The carpenters, blacksmiths, bricklayers, sailmakers, painters, and nearly all the other trades are taking a leaf out of the book lately published by the tailors. It is very difficult to see through this question. There is no certainty that the strikers really have the grievances of which they complain. We fear, also, that there are some professional agitators making a propaganda amongst our artisans, more with an eye to their own selfish interest than from love of the tradesman. It is, of course, true that skilled labor is relatively cheap here; but there are conditions which seem to us to recompense the artisan for the comparatively low wage he receives. We allude to the cost of living. It has been ascertained that the purchasing power of our paper currency is altogether out of proportion to its assumed or alleged depreciation. Artisans who earn \$130 or \$150 m/a per month can live in comfort. Even those who earn from \$80 to \$110 m/a per month are better off than their counterparts in Montevideo who earn \$40 or \$50 gold. It may be safely asserted that \$100 paper in Buenos Aires goes as far as \$50 gold in Montevideo. —*Southern Cross*, Dec. 6.

## WEST COAST ITEMS.

—A survey is now in progress for a railway through the mountains from Guayaquil to Quito, Ecuador. A line has been built from Guayaquil, 90 kilometers east to Chimocho, beyond this point are to be found the real difficulties. The country is fertile and could easily become very prosperous. The exports are cacao and coffee, and some sugar.

—A Buenos Aires telegram of the 12th says that it is telegraphed from Santiago that the Chilean government has just effected the purchase of a new first-class ironclad. The talk about disarmament, then, was only a *façade*. It illustrates the good faith which characterizes such negotiations among these belligerent republics. We now await news as to what new war material the Argentines ordered when the talk about disarmament was on.

## THE BANANA.

A writer in *Chambers' Journal* says of the banana:—

In the West Indies the dried leaves and prepared portions of the stem are used as packing materials. Fresh leaves are used to shade young coffee or cacao seedlings in nursery beds, and to cover cacao beans during fermentation. The young unopened leaves are so smooth and soft that they are used as "dressing" for blisters. In India the dried stalk of the plantain leaf is used as a rough kind of twine, and the larger ones are made into small boxes for holding small drugs, etc.

In the Malay Peninsula the skin of the leaf and leaf-stalk is used instead of soap or filler's earth in washing clothes, and a solution of the ash is often used as salt in cooking. In the Dutch Indies the skin of the plantain is used for blackening shoes. The juice which flows from all cut parts of the banana is rich in tannin, and of so thickening a nature that it may be used as an indelible marking ink. In Java the leaves of the "cava banana" are covered on the under side with a white powder, which yields a valuable wax—clear, hard and white—forming an impervious article of trade. The ashes of the leaves, stem and fruit are employed in Bengal in many dyeing processes. In Siam a cigarette wrapper is made from the leaves.

Fiber is got from the stems. From the leaves of bananas. The most valuable is the "Manilla hemp" of commerce, which holds the chief places for making white ropes and cordage. Old ropes made of it form an excellent paper-making material, much used in the United States for stout packing papers. The Manilla hemp industry is a large one. About 50,000 tons of fiber, valued at £3,000,000, are annually exported from the Philippine Islands. The Manilla hemp plant is grown exclusively in the southeastern part of the Philippines, and all attempts to grow it elsewhere have failed. Many things are made from Manilla hemp—mats, cord, hair, plaited work, lace handkerchiefs, of the finest texture, and various qualities of paper. At Wollulau, in Switzerland, an industry has been started for making lace and materials for ladies' hats from it. By a simple process it is made into straw, exactly resembling the finest wheat straw, for plaiting.

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The Nectandra is already well known, but I have, nevertheless, the greatest pleasure in confirming again facts happened under my eyes, and which undoubtedly will help to mitigate the sufferings of many. Always yours, Pedro G. Paes Leme.

Rio de Janeiro, 13th October, 1893.

## Continued from our last TRINIDAD ISLAND. THE CHURCH OF THE "ALEXANDER".

We hoisted our leaky lifeboat into the davits when we got on board, intending to repair her on the following morning.

During the night fierce gusts blew down the ravine from the north-east, and black masses of clouds were constantly sweeping across the mountains. The wind howled as it does in a wintry gale on the North Sea, and, to all appearance, a heavy storm was raging. Still, it was quite smooth at our anchorage under the lee of the island, and we noticed that seawards the sky looked clear enough, and the clouds were travelling at no great pace. The storm, in fact, was entirely local, and was limited to the islet and its immediate neighbourhood. We afterwards became quite accustomed to these harmless gales, which had a habit of springing up at sunset.

Trinidad, in consequence of the loftiness of its mountains, can boast of a climate of its own. It is subject to miniature cyclones, whose influence does not extend a mile from the shore, and which, therefore, cannot raise a heavy sea. We were sometimes riding with straining chain to a wind of hurricane force, when we could see a vessel a league or so from the land making no progress, her canvas shaking in the calm; and, however fine it would be outside, the clouds would collect upon the peaks in ominous torn masses, that whirled along as if impelled by a terrific blast, and which looked very alarming until we came to understand the innocence of the phenomenon. We also found that the landing was often the most perilous on clear, windless days, when no clouds crowned the mountains.

These storms were, however, a nuisance to us; for the squalls would strike the yacht with great force, so that she strained at her chain and was likely to drag; consequently the officer in charge was unable to enjoy an undisturbed night's rest, but was in a state of constant anxiety for the vessel, and was often brought on deck by the tempest to satisfy himself that all was going well.

The next day, November 29, was fine, the wind being still from the north-east. There was even less swell than on the previous day, so we saw that no time must be lost in landing more stores. A neglected opportunity on Trinidad might mean a month's delay.

We examined the boat, and found that she had started a plank, but that the damage was slight and could be easily repaired. A few copper nails, some cotton thrust between the seams with a knife, and a little marine glue, made her tight again; and, after breakfast, she put off to Treasure Bay with a miscellaneous cargo, the tents, a barrel of flour, wire fencing, the blankets and baggage for the shore party, etc., but we did not venture to put nearly so heavy a weight into her as on the previous day.

The surf in the bay was no longer dangerous, and, though water was shipped, all was landed without accident. At midday, the boat returned to the yacht, was refueled, and another successful disembarkation was effected. This put us in very good spirits. We had succeeded in overcoming the difficulties that had caused previous expeditions to fail, and had now got on shore all that was absolutely necessary for carrying on the digging for some time to come. The doctor, Pursell, Powell, and Ted Milner were left on shore for the night, and the boat returned to the yacht.

The next day, November 30, was the first on which we divided ourselves definitely into two parties. The working-gang on shore and a crew of three to take charge of the yacht. I had talked over the plans on the previous day with my sole officer, our medicomate, and we had come to the conclusion that it would be advisable for me to stay on board for the first fortnight at least; for we did not know as yet whether it would be safe to remain at anchor for any length of time, or what steps might become necessary in order to ensure the safety of the vessel; and, until such knowledge had been gained by experience of the place, it was right that I should undertake the responsibility of looking after the yacht.

So, on this morning, I went on shore for the last time before settling down to my fortnight's watch. We took another cargo of stores in the boat, and landed without difficulty. This long spell of smooth sea was a most fortunate occurrence for us. On landing I found that the shore-party had been at work. They had arranged the camp—and very snug it looked. Two ridge tents had been placed side by side to be occupied by the gentlemen volunteers, two in each; while a short way off was a larger tent, constructed of our racing spinaker and the quarter-deck awning supported by bamboos. This was our dining-room and kitchen, and also served as sleeping quarters for the paid hands. At one end of it was an elegant dining-table—planks from the deck of some old wreck supported by one of Mr. A.—'s wheelbarrows which had been found in the ravine. A few camp-stools and barrels served as chairs, and the arrangements generally were almost luxurious.

Many improvements were made to the camp during our stay in Trinidad, and at

last it became a comfortable little village. A conspicuous object near the tent was the condensing apparatus. Later on the cooking was all done out of doors, a neat oven having been constructed of stones and plaster of Paris. The plaster of Paris had formed part of the taxidermist's stores, but, little used for its original purpose, it was found to be of much service in the way of cement.

A list of all that we landed on the shore of South-west Bay would be a long one. There was, at the very least, eight tons weight in all. I need not say that the cook was well provided with culinary apparatus, and that such articles as paraffin lamps for the tents, a library of books, fishing lines and hooks, and carpenter's tools had not been forgotten—our camp, in short, was fully furnished with everything that could be required.

The doctor and myself discussed the scheme of work on shore, and, when all was settled, we launched the boat again and pulled off to the yacht. It was decided that the shore party should keep the whale-boat—in the first place, because the crew on board would be insufficient to man her, and, secondly, because it was only right and prudent to leave a boat on the island in case of any accident happening to the yacht. It would be easy for the working-party to pull off, if necessary, and intercept a passing vessel. The dilapidated dinghy was left on board for our use.

The hands who had come off in the boat dined on board, and then the doctor, taking with him those who were going to stay on shore, pulled back to the bay to commence his duties as governor of Trinidad, leaving me with my two hands, Wright and the coloured man Spanner. And a very good governor the doctor proved too, as I discovered when I next went on shore and saw the work that had been got through. He kept up a discipline quite strict enough for all practical purposes. He did more work than any one else himself, being physically the strongest man of us all, and he superintended all the operations with great skill and judgment. The control could not have been left in better hands, and he was well backed up by his comrades. There was hard work done on that island, considerable hardships were undergone, there was often dangerous landing and heaving of boats, and all was carried on under a vertical sun on one of the hottest and most depressing spots on the earth. Great credit is due to the doctor and the others who worked so hard and with such pluck and cheerful zeal, and the numerous remarks of the one discontented volunteer we had left—a man who did not do his share of work either at sea or on shore, but who did far more than his share of criticism and fault-finding—can only reflect upon himself. As he has favoured the world with his sneers through the medium of the papers, I feel bound to say this much.

The doctor remained and worked hard on the island during the whole time that our operations were being carried on, as did Powell and Pursell, and they, with the paid hands, who relieved each other at intervals, practically did all the digging. I was on shore for one fortnight only, as will appear in the course of our narrative. I had, consequently, but a very small share of the hard work and of roughing it, for the life on board ship was comparatively more comfortable and easy than the life on shore. Our critical volunteer also only passed about two weeks, of not arduous work, on the island; for the rest of the time he was on the yacht.

This night we had another local storm, but by now we were getting accustomed to this.

Shortly before dawn on the following morning, Sunday, December 1, I saw, to my surprise, the whale-boat rounding the point. She came alongside, and the doctor, who was in charge of her, boarded us. Seeing that there was very little surf in South-west Bay, he had, naturally, taken the opportunity of putting off for another cargo of stores. Among other articles he carried away some large coco-nut mats, he had purchased at Bahia, and which, when laid on the sandy floor of the tents, would make things more comfortable. He also took off the heavy boiler and receiving-tank of the condensing apparatus, which could only be landed on a favourable day such as this was. Having loaded the boat, he left us again.

We had now taken so much weight out of the yacht that she was high out of the water, and might possibly prove somewhat cranky under canvas. So, after dinner, I took the two men off with me in the dinghy, for the purpose of fetching some heavy stones from the beach to put in our hold in the place of all the tools we had taken out. First we pulled to the pier, where we landed without the slightest difficulty. Wright, while wandering about the beach, came across the last object one would expect to find on a desert island—a rather smart lady's straw-hat, so far as my judgment goes, of modern fashion. It had, probably, been blown off some fair head on a passenger steamer. The gallant gentleman-adventurers, when they heard of this discovery, proposed that it should be stuck on a pole in the middle of the camp, to remind them of home and beauty.

(To be continued.)

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# THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

A. J. LAMOUREUX, Editor and Proprietor.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 24th, 1895.

FROM all appearances the scenes of last year along this coast are to be repeated. Cholera has again reappeared in Brazil, if we may accept the opinion of the sanitary inspector of the state of Rio de Janeiro in regard to the epidemic in Campos. It is not serious and has appeared at only one place, but still it is here. Yellow-fever has also appeared at Pará, Pernambuco, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro and at one or two interior towns of the state of São Paulo. And in Buenos Aires there is a bad epidemic of scarlatina, and diphtheria is prevalent in many places in that country. The sanitary condition of both Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro is very bad, and the sanitary boards of both are more concerned with quarantine restrictions than with rational prevention. The representatives of the three countries at Montevideo have thus far been unable to agree upon satisfactory regulations to govern maritime communication between them, and we may therefore expect that each will continue to act independently, as was the case last year. It is reasonably certain, then, that we shall have quarantines, quarantine reprisals, quarantine abuses and quarantine scandals just as before.

Up to the present time the bare suggestion of leasing or selling the Central railway has always been met with an indignant refusal. The Emperor would not even consider the idea, and all the prominent men of his time and since then have treated the subject in much the same spirit. It has always been looked upon as a valuable asset, a source of income to the state. Recent developments, however, have demonstrated the unwelcome fact that the Central railway is not only not a source of income, but that it is now yielding the state nothing but deficits and trouble. And it is probably felt, though it may not be admitted, that the government is not competent to manage such a property. The proposal, therefore, to lease the property has been received, either with decided approval, or with acquiescent silence. And now Congress has actually under consideration a bill, prepared by a special committee, authorizing such a lease. But, it will be permitted us to say, the time has long since passed when the Central railway could have been leased to advantage. No foreign company can safely undertake the enterprise under existing conditions, and no native company could possibly offer any certainty of doing better than the government is now doing. In the first place, the permanent way is in a very bad condition and a large sum will be required to put it in order. The rolling stock has been shamefully used and will also require extensive repairs. And as for the personnel, it is so disorganized and demoralized, so insubordinate and inefficient, that it would be necessary to dismiss every man. It is estimated that there are about 15,000 men employed on the line, and by competent authorities it is said that 5,000 good men ought to easily do the work. As these employees have vested interests in the service, through their *monte pio*, it would be impossible to effect any sweeping change without trouble, and under existing political conditions in Brazil and in view of the chauvinist prejudices which have obtained a foothold here, it would be impossible for

a foreign company to overcome the difficulties it would have to encounter. In our opinion there is now no security for a foreign management of the Central railway, nor certainly of a profitable return on the investment which the government will expect.

It would appear from the present drift of political events that the recent organization of the *partido democrático federal* will help to divide the country into two great parties, which will be known as "republican" and "democratic." In time there will be a crystallization and division of issues also, and then the people will begin to understand what they have to do. This division into organized parties can not be otherwise than beneficial to the country, and particularly so if they are based upon certain great issues. A great obstacle to the development of political institutions thus far has been the lack of party organizations and principles, and, in consequence, the government of the country by a clique assuming to represent true republican principles and condemning all those in opposition as traitors to the republic. This is absurd as well as hurtful. There are very few principles in the practical application of the science of government which will not admit of contrary views, and there is neither justice nor common sense in denouncing such views as traitorous. In the early days of the American republic the people were divided into two great parties—the federalists, or advocates of a strongly centralized government, with Washington, Hamilton, Adams, and such men at its head; and the "republican" party, led by Jefferson, Madison, and others, who advocated a decentralized government, popular sovereignty, and in great measure the ideas produced by the French revolution. This popular party afterwards became the democratic party, while the federalist party disappeared with the death of the men who had done so much for the independence of the country, and was succeeded by the whig party, led by such men as Clay and Webster. In time the whigs also disappeared, and were succeeded in the fifties by the present republican party, organized to oppose the extension of slavery. The rivalries between such great parties may sometimes lead to disorder and discredit, but in the main they are of the highest value to the country. They help to educate the people on the questions which divide them, and they act as a check upon each other. When they become corrupt and careless of their great mission, popular defections occur and the more intelligent and independent voters pass from one side to the other, or organize third parties. These independent movements have often succeeded, and have been the means of checking serious abuses. If the same course can be initiated here in Brazil, great good must surely follow, but the leaders on both sides must understand that defeat ought not to imply a withdrawal from the field, as is so often done at present. An active, aggressive minority is often the stronger force in shaping legislation, and is always a check upon executive excesses. By all means let us have two parties, and then let them divide upon some of the great questions which are now under consideration.

## THE CLEVELAND MESSAGE.

It has been said that all men have their moments of insanity, and we are strongly inclined to believe it. There can be no other explanation of the extraordinary action of President Cleveland the past week. He had up to that time pursued a calm and dignified course in relation to the long-standing dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela, which had become somewhat critical lately because of the latter's violence. In seeking to prevent war and in proposing arbitration, he had done what was right and proper, but in going beyond that, as he did in his message to Congress, he has placed himself wholly in the wrong. He has needlessly offended a friendly power; he has destroyed his own influence as a peacemaker; he has made the Monroe doctrine ridiculous; and he has jeopardized the peaceful relations of the two great Anglo-Saxon nations and imperiled the commerce and prosperity of a half of the world. To speak plainly, he has committed a serious offense against the world's peace and prosperity.

We are glad to see that the sober, thinking citizens of the United States have been prompt to denounce this insane act and to

deprecate any step which will lead to a rupture between the two countries. The sensational newspapers, which have done so much to create prejudice on this and other questions, and the politicians and demagogues who measure their personal successes by the applause they can win in denouncing imaginary dangers and aggressions, will of course urge the President to continue, but the best and soundest opinion of the country will be against him.

It must be confessed, and as an American we say it with deeper regret, that President Cleveland has no justification whatever for his arbitrary interference in this question. He has no more right to force his wish upon Great Britain in this dispute, than upon Chili in her boundary dispute with Argentina. Great Britain has just the same rights in her boundary disputes in America as in any other part of the world. It is not a case of extending her territories, but of controlling what she has claimed from the beginning. And until a decision is reached her claim is just as good as that of Venezuela, so far as third parties are concerned, and she is no more guilty of trespass than is Venezuela. Under such circumstances, the proposal to appoint a commission to define this boundary, is a gratuitous insult, which would not be accepted by any nation. It is incredible that President Cleveland could have made so astounding a mistake, for in doing this he has forfeited the support of all the great powers.

As for the outcome, we can not believe that war will result. It would be an unpardonable crime to precipitate a war for so trifling a cause. The loss and misery which it would occasion would be infinite, and in the end nothing would be gained. The United States would be impregnable on land, and Great Britain would be equally so on the sea. Canada would be overrun by American armies, Venezuela would be conquered by the British fleet, as also every other South American republic which ventured to espouse the cause of this bloodied, half-civilized republic. The foreign commerce of the United States would be completely destroyed, that of Great Britain partially, and that of many other nations would be greatly injured. And in the end, to satisfy this quixotic Monroe doctrine, Venezuela would be given up in exchange for Canada, and the two great powers would stand just where they began, minus the blood and treasure that had been wasted. Such a war would be a crime against humanity, a blot upon our civilization.

Of the action of the Brazilian Congress on the 19th, in passing congratulatory resolutions in regard to President Cleveland's aggressive message, there is but this to say: it was untimely, ill-advised, impolitic and unglorified. It was in its way as great a blunder as the message which inspired it. A modicum of common sense ought to have led the two chambers to wait for accurate information. Instead of this, they accepted telegrams which are notoriously untrustworthy, and acted upon insufficient information. They were governed wholly by a sentiment, which in this case was mistakenly applied. This not only discredits their judgment and impartiality, but it can not fail to give offence to a nation with which Brazil now has a controversy, and to which she owes the greater part of her development. Adhesion to a vaguely defined political doctrine will not justify ingratitude and hostile resolutions. Brazil has her own career to follow, her own fortune to make. She can not afford to follow any such chauvinist will-o'-the-wisp as this modern development of the Monroe doctrine. If she does, it will sooner or later bring her into conflict with Europe, and the United States will be helpless to protect her. Here as in the United States the opinions of conservative, thinking men are against President Cleveland's act, and it is only the *jingoes* who are clamoring for war.

## THE STRANGERS' HOSPITAL.

We desire to again call the attention of our friends to the urgent necessities of the Strangers' Hospital. We have already entered upon the summer season, and have already had fever cases for treatment, which is exceptional. The prospects are that we shall have a long fever season, even though it does not develop a violent epidemic. The foundations of the new

isolated fever ward, which the Hospital has been compelled to build, are now ready, and the wooden superstructure will arrive here in a few days. It is urgently necessary that the building should be at once erected, for which, we regret to say, sufficient funds have not been provided. The loans made for this ward were less than the estimated cost, and the difference must be met with the ordinary revenue from subscriptions. As this revenue is required for the running expenses of the Hospital, and as we have a bad season before us, it will be seen that additional donations are much needed. The Hospital has already done much good and is daily proving its usefulness in many ways, not the least of which is that of preventing the spread of contagion to the companions of patients, which formerly occurred. We are convinced that our English-speaking residents acted wisely and providently in establishing this Hospital, and we feel sure that they will not see its usefulness impaired for the want of a few hundred pounds.

## THE EXCHANGE QUESTION.

Rio Grande, Dec. 10, 1895.

To the Editor,

Dear Sir,—I am obliged to you for the complimentary terms in which you refer to my exposition of the real causes of the fall in exchange since 1889 in your issue of 26th ult., but cannot say I agree altogether with the conclusions you draw therefrom.

The remedy for the present state of things is undoubtedly, as you remark, to reduce the volume of both the currency and of imports; but more rational proportions, but far from being the simple matter you appear to describe it, seems to me to involve difficulties of the first magnitude.

Generalities are easy to deal in, but a practical and at the same time equitable method of reducing the volume of the currency is yet to be found.

The state of the national finances prohibits any hope of the state being able to devote any surplus to such an object for many years to come, whilst to expect any such initiative from the Banco da República we must indeed be optimistic!

The value of the currency is controlled exclusively by the relations of supply and demand; if we except, for convenience sake, the slight variations not exceeding 2½ per cent. due to strictly international exchange. The supply is represented by the amount in circulation and the demand by its real, or specie value.

If, then, the supply is at present equivalent to Rs. 495,316 per head, at the exchange of 100, the demand is represented by Rs. 1,78,797, and vice versa. If, as Sr. Almeida Gonsalves and other parliamentary authorities lately maintained, the demand is really equal to and in excess of the supply, there could not possibly be any depreciation at all.

They thus hopelessly confuse cause and effect, and suppose because the supply for the depreciated paper currency is not in excess of the demand, that therefore the demand for money has proportionately increased, whereas, it is the supply that has been depreciated, precisely because it was excessive, and until its value again corresponds to the real demand.

There is therefore an excess of paper money in circulation equivalent to Rs. 32,519 per capita, or Rs. 339,320,408 in all; in order to balance the supply and demand and raise nominal exchange to par this enormous amount must be withdrawn from circulation.

In what manner is it practicable to do so? For my own part I do not see any possible way of doing it without injury to the interests of some classes and in favor of those of others.

If attempted by means of foreign loans, as has been proposed, and duly the value of the currency may be thus improved, by diminishing the supply, but only at the cost of a simultaneous, though not equivalent, decrease in the demand, which the increase of foreign burdens would perpetuate; whilst any such artificial valorization of the circulating medium is open to still graver objections of a moral nature; which leads us to the consideration of a very pretty problem in economics.

Suppose, for the sake of round numbers, that when exchange stood at 124, the currency in circulation were Rs. 400,000,000, when its real or specie value would be £20,000,000, a national or internal loan were issued for Rs. 200,000,000, and its proceeds devoted entirely to redemption of the currency.

In consequence of the reduction of the supply of the circulating medium even neglecting the increase in the demand which the cessation of a new marketable value, the bonds emitted, would create, exchange would rise from 124 to 244, and the aggregate value of the currency, in spite of its reduction to one-half its former volume, would remain as before £20,000,000.

A completely new value will, however, have been created in the 200,000,000 of bonds emitted, whose value will have been likewise raised to £20,000,000, so that by the simple substitution of one kind of promissory note for another, *apocryph* for notes, £20,000,000 have been converted into £40,000,000, without any apparent loss to anyone; which, if it were true, would be an operation more marvellous than the transmutation of the metals, and appear to point a sure and easy road to par.

The explanation of the paradox I leave for the present to the ingenuity of your numerous readers, whom I have no doubt will be able to show solid reasons why this royal shill has not should be barred, and labelled "No Thoroughfare."

J. P. WILKMAN.

## LEGISLATIVE NOTES

Dec. 16.—*Senate*.—Senator Moraes e Barros spoke against protective duties. The Senate rejected the bill of Duties on Lard for asking information in regard to the 400,000\$000 received by Admiral Jerônimo Gonçalves. *Chamber of Deputies*.—Deputy Thomaz Cavaleiro spoke on the bill for resigning the Gymnasium National. Deputy Gaspar de Moraes spoke in favor of maintaining D. Gonçalves' law in his position in the Pernambuco law school. He argued to prove that this professor had a life-term of office and consequently that his dismissal was illegal. The only ground on which his dismissal can be justified is to assume that the provisional government continued an illegal act when it dismissed D. Alvim. Moraes and Appareido. Dr. Gonçalves' main in his statement was that the naval school was voted in and discussion. Several amendments to the budget of the department of the interior were also voted.

Dec. 17.—*Senate*.—Senator Quintino Bocayva said that the financial state of the country is not so bad as many persons seem to think. It is true that the public debt has increased and now amounts to 1,980,000,000\$000; but the revenue of the country is also increased from 183,000,000\$000 for the general and state governments in 1889, to 435,000,000\$000 at the present time. He defended the director of the mint and said that if the charges against it are true, then only the government is to blame for keeping him in office. Senator Leopoldo bill. He defended the calculation of the amount of duties on the basis of 140 or 124 per 1800, and defended the policy of collecting duties in gold. There was introduced a resolution for extending the legislative session to the 30th inst.—*Chamber of Deputies*.—Deputy Curiel de Sá asked the chief clerk to place on the docket the bill discriminating the faculties of the general government from those of the federal district. This bill, he stated, was voted by the Chamber of Deputies in 1893 and sent to the Senate, which voted a substitute bill. The English government, he said, will doubtless desire to see the bill rejected in Brazil in the Triennial question; but it will probably wish to avenge itself by supporting the claims of the English companies who have contracts with the Brazilian government. Some of these contracts relate to municipal services in the federal district. It is necessary to be prepared for the questions when they arise and consequently the relations between the general government and that of the federal district will be specially regulated. Deputy Thomaz Delino said that the danger which the honorable member for Minas Geraes prophesied is dread is purely imaginary, being, in the opinion of the speaker, the result of the ill-will felt by that honorable member towards the municipal government of the federal district. The hostility displayed in certain quarters towards this district is doubtless caused by a bitter feeling in favor of moun City. There is in fact a contract with the City Improvement Company; but that contract has been honestly executed on the part of the government, and the company has no right to claim compensation. The company wishes to move the court in a way that would be burdensome to the people of Rio de Janeiro, who are already overtaxed and who will vehemently protest against being oppressed by a municipal government. This is a civilized country, much more civilized, perhaps, than those who treat it as if it were a tribe in Africa. Deputy Cupertino de Siqueira disclaimed having any offensive intentions, and expressed astonishment at the unaccountable warmth of the honorable member for the federal district. Deputy Thomaz Delino said that the bill which the honorable member wished to call up, which converted into a law, completely disregarding the municipal government. Deputy Frederico Borges moved to inquire whether the government has possession of Marshal Floriano Peixoto's archives, and whether in those archives there is a letter from the present secretary of the minister of marine giving information to the revolutionists. Deputies Thomaz Cavaleiro and Adolpho Gondo discussed the bill on the Gymnasium National. The latter said that the even the press do not attempt to defend Benjamin Constant's regulations, which, as their author himself was finally forced to acknowledge, failed to work in a satisfactory manner. The Senate's amenities to the budget of the department of finance were all rejected except one. The Chamber adopted the motion of Deputy Bicio Filho for a nominal vote on the amendment of Deputy Alcindo Guanabara and Eriq Coelho to the bill on the nullification of the vote. When the vote was taken, however, it was discovered that some of the deputies had absented themselves and there was no longer a quorum in the house. There were 56 votes in favor of the bill and 48 against it.

Dec. 18.—*Senate*.—Barão do Ladário said that some days before a package of papers had been left in his charge with the understanding that they should be returned when demanded. Among these papers is a letter in the handwriting of Capt. Garcez Palha, secretary of the minister of marine. In addition to this letter there are five or six maps of the fortified positions occupied in this city by government troops during the naval revolution. These maps were evidently made by a well-informed person and were apparently intended to facilitate an attack on those positions from the water. It seems to him, he said, that the handwriting of the explanations on the maps is the same as that of Capt. Garcez Palha. The Rio Grande senators to whom he showed the documents agree with him in this opinion. He accordingly denounces Capt. Garcez Palha as a disloyal traitor. The revenue bill was voted in and discussion with amendments. When the amendments were voted the following:—That which provides for calculating specific duties on the basis of 124, per 1800, or, in other words, for collecting twice the amount of the present duties; that for collecting a duty of 25 reis per liter on salt; that for imposing a fine of 200\$ ad valorem on articles of prime necessity which are retained on board or at bonded warehouses for more than 30 days; that for a tax of 25 reis per 500 grammes or fraction thereof on Brazilian tobacco; that for collecting two-thirds of the import duty in currency and one-third in gold;

that for contracting for nickel coins of 100 and 200 reis to the total amount of 10,000,000\$000 in foreign countries in case they cannot be minted in the national mint.—*Chamber of Deputies*.—Deputy Thomaz Cavaleiro said on the 20th of June the Chamber had voted a motion of his to ask for certain information from the navy department. The information which after great delay he at last came to hand is perfectly worthless. The minister of marine either attaches no importance to the request for information, or has failed to read the document that he signed. He complained of the injustice with which Admiral Gonçalves has been treated and promised to introduce at some future time a bill in regard to the defense of officers who are attacked by the press. Deputy Curiel de Sá in speaking on the dismissal of Dr. Gonçalves Maia he was involved in an allusion which Deputy José Mariano, violent and insulting language was used and the sitting was suspended. Business being resumed at 1.30 p.m. Deputy Coelho Neto concluded his speech. The amendment of Deputy Alcindo Guanabara and Eriq Coelho to the bill on banks of issue was rejected in five decisions by a vote of 57 to 53.

Dec. 19.—*Senate*.—The finance committee reported against the special appropriation of 8,000,000\$000 for the Central railway, which, in its opinion, should be included in the budget. Senator Dora Pereira moved to call up the bill on the general staff of the army. The motion, opposed by Senators Almeida Barreto and Faria, was rejected. Senators Coelho Rodrigues, Ramiro Barcellos and Moraes Barros discussed the budget of the department of industry. The following motion was unanimously voted:—"The Senate of the United States of Brazil salutes the Senate of the United States of North America on account of the worthy message of President Cleveland, who with so much spirit offers a safeguard for the dignity, sovereignty and liberty of American nations."—*Chamber of Deputies*.—Deputy Alcindo Guanabara moved to ask for information in regard to the alleged proposals of the Gas and City Improvement companies for alterations in the contracts. Deputy Garibaldi Dumand spoke in defense of Dr. Gonçalves Maia's right to the professorship of which he had been deprived and moved to ask for information in regard to the quarantine station at Ilha Grande. The motion was opposed by Deputy Meleiros e Albuquerque. Deputy Glycerio defended the following motion, which was unanimously voted:—"The Chamber of Deputies of the United States of Brazil congratulates the House of Representatives of the American Union on the worthy message of President Cleveland, who in an noble and high spirited manner defends the rights, sovereignty and liberty of American nations embodied in the Monroe doctrine."

Dec. 20.—*Senate*.—Barão do Ladário said that at the previous sitting he had accused Capt. Garcez Palha of being a traitor, not to the republic, but to legality, which is a very different thing. He hopes, he said, that Capt. Garcez Palha will be able to defend himself, but he does not believe in courts of inquiry in a country like this, in which the interests of justice are frequently superseded by personal considerations. He disclaimed any intention of attacking the personal honor of the minister of marine, although the latter's administration has, in the opinion of the speaker, been fatal to the best interests of the country. Those who censured the speaker's action in relation to Admiral Jerônimo Gonçalves are beginning to see the error of their ways. The last budget of the department of industry was voted in and discussion with amendments. Some of the amendments of the Chamber of Deputies to the bill for increasing the pay of judges of the Supreme Court were also voted and others rejected. The special appropriation of 14,000,000\$000 for the navy department was voted in 3rd discussion. The Senate failed to sustain the amendment of 4, rejected by the Chamber of Deputies, on the bill on the Leopoldina railway.

## PROVINCIAL NOTES

—Dr. Rodrigues Lima, governor of Bahia, returned to that state on the 20th inst.

—It is reported that Gen. Galvão is a candidate for the office of governor of Bahia.

—The 3rd artillery has been ordered from Rio Grande to Santa Catharina and Paraná.

—Complaints are made in Santos of a scarcity of water. It is a bad outlook for the summer.

—Our São Paulo exchanges state that no less than four persons were drowned at Santos on the 17th.

—"Governor" Francisco Xavier da Veiga Cabral left Pará on the 5th inst. to resume the government of Amapá.

—Santos is to have a chanyist journal called the *Caboclo*. It will be edited by youths, who would be better employed plaiting potatoes.

—The governor of Bahia has resolved to send a police force to capture the celebrated Antonio Conselheiro, head of a religious sect in that state.

—The sub-jointment promoted by the *Município* in São Paulo in half of the Cuban revolutionists, had reached a total of 2,575\$800 on the 18th inst.

—A contraband of 10,000\$ was detected in Santos on the 16th inst. in the possession of Tommaso Vita. Thomas will now begin life over again.

—On the morning of the 17th inst. four condemned prisoners escaped from the jail at S. Carlos do Pinal. Two of them had been condemned for 24 years.

—There were many cases of small-pox in Pará during the months of October and November, but it was not common enough to be called an epidemic.

—An Italian is in jail at S. Carlos do Pinal for violating his own daughter, 11 years of age. Flogging for twenty years, once a day, will suit that crime.

—Corporal Amazonas, accused of the murder of Dr. José Maria, was tried and acquitted in Pernambuco on the 17th inst. The *Provincia* telegraphs that the jury refused to exculpate the two officers, who are the real assassins.

—Mail arrives from Manaus of the 24th ult. state that the waters of the upper Amazon had begun to rise. The collection season is dry and has been unusually short.

—There have been disturbances at Taubaté and the police authorities have ordered the *Journal do Rio* to suspend publication. Have the police any legal authority for such an order?

—Bravo! They are really doing something in São Paulo to suppress crime! On the 16th another counterfeit, Antonio G. Maria de Faria, was condemned to eight years' imprisonment.

—In Serquipe, G. Valadão has issued orders for presenting the president of the returning board that emitted the votes of his political adversaries. Valadão wants no opposition of any kind.

—A meeting was held in São Paulo on the 19th to consider the project of an industrial exposition in 1898. A committee was appointed to prepare an opinion, of which Conselheiro Antonio Prado is president.

—The gubernatorial elections in Bahia have been called for January 28th, and on the 29th of January an election is to be held for nine state senators. Ways could not be the two elections have been held the same day?

—One of our São Paulo exchanges has sent the "Ging'ande" of France in relation to permit certain Brazilian funds to be paid on the 13th, and even goes so far as to suggest breaking away from the tutelage of that country.

—It would seem that every true Castilian in Rio Grande is expected to cut a federalist throat on every opportunity, in spite of it being in the hands of a rebel. We wonder if this is the "civilization" Deputy Thomaz Delino referred to in his speech a few days since.

—A party of Austrian immigrants, bound for Paraná, were found in Santos last week without shelter and help. The customs inspector thereupon placed two empty customs deposits at their disposal until they could proceed on their journey. He also provided them with food.

—Partisans of the state government of Alagoas telegraphed on the 20th that in the work of Joseph Manuel laid out and his men were attacked by the police and, after 47 minutes' heavy fighting, were defeated and dispersed, taking refuge in Pernambuco. They report that two policemen were wounded in the fight.

—A popular subscription has been initiated in São Paulo for the creation of an agricultural school, but it is arousing very little enthusiasm. We are waiting to receive a gift of 50,000\$ or 100,000\$ from some one of our rich coffee planters of the state, for whom the government has done so much. These are more generous and public-spirited enough to make such a gift?

—In Dões de Imlá, Minas Geraes, there resides a man named Manoel Cardoso. This Santos man in 1890 married a wife in the religious ceremony only, which is not recognized by law. After living with this wife nearly five years, he abandoned her and her children in April last 1st or her to marry another woman who had a future of about 100,000\$. This second marriage was by the civil ceremony, according to law. The abandoned wife then appealed to him for protection in her destitution, so he took her and the three are living together in peace and happiness. And the law looks on and smiles!

—Disturbing news comes from Rio Grande. Those numerous savages who call themselves the legitimate forces have been treacherously slaughtering some of the exiles, and have killed some of the best of the lines. Their victims include one eight-year-old married woman and a baby! They are also plundering the residents' land and left and destroying the livestock, and there is no guarantee for either life or property. The nominal J. do Francisco is mixed up in the business as usual. In addition to this, relations between Governor Castilho and General Glória are exceedingly strained, and it is expected at any moment that the former will declare himself in rebellion against the central government and thus provide another civil war. It is very certain that there will be neither peace nor happiness for the state until Castilho and all his unholy crew, half servants of a bad master, are turned out of power. He has been weakness on the part of President Moraes to have allowed him to return so long.—*Montevideo Times*, Dec. 12.

—The October returns from the civil registries in the state of São Paulo give the following vital statistics for the principal towns of the state:

	births	marriages	deaths
S. Paulo (city)....	654	103	512
Santos.....	65	21	120
Campinas.....	147	30	133
Ribeirão Preto.....	196	32	137
Amara.....	118	11	66
Sorocaba.....	82	16	55
Pindamonhangaba.....	63	16	34
Joinville.....	104	26	85
Itaboraiti.....	45	18	49
S. Bernardo.....	39	4	23
S. Carlos do Pinal.....	169	63	100
Guaratininga.....	82	11	98
Limeira.....	68	24	32
Taubaté.....	119	22	82
Araraquara.....	105	30	71
Raposa.....	76	12	51
S. Roque.....	33	3	26
Po to Feliz.....	26	3	8
Jacaré.....	36	11	33
Rio Preto.....	82	13	49
Tietê.....	21	12	26
União.....	49	10	37
Itapetininga.....	36	4	24
S. José dos Campos.....	17	4	19
Barão.....	14	9	14
Boim.....	14	4	14
S. Sebastião.....	15	3	8
Crozeira.....	14	1	14
Mozópolis.....	54	5	57
Araras.....	36	10	14
Atibaia.....	30	3	17
Lorena.....	53	3	41
Bagé.....	17	9	4
Itapetininga.....	17	5	31
Queluz.....	68	10	43
Queluz.....	6	2	24
N. g. guas.....	22	4	19

—Barão do Gernambal and other Bahia senators have protested against the election of a rebel for filling this place, which the state government considers void.

—In Campinas some fine large trees in the public garden are to be cut down to make room for smaller ones. "In accordance with the modern disposition of gardens."

## RIO GRANDE DO SUL

A Montevideo telegram of the 21st inst. says that Dr. Raphael Caldeira, a prominent Rio Grande revolutionary, who has contributed 500,000\$ to the cause, has addressed the following telegram to Gen. Sotomayor, commander of the 6th military district in the absence of Gen. Glória:

"Two more of my comrades have had their throats cut. They were mud-red in Brazil and their bodies were dragged into Uruguaiana territory. More than 15 minutes have been consumed in this district. Of cattle thieves I do not even speak. Cal. Paula Castro and the lieutenant of Santa Anna do Uruguaiana take no action. I order that once more may be a reality it is necessary that the pledges of the federal government and the army shall be respected. Fools are murdered and I will not let the government or the army take any action. The government and the army must fulfil their obligations and we shall take the matter into our own hands and then we will live in peace. If we are to be murdered with impunity, we prefer to die in our own way."

For another parts of the state Castilian outposts continue to be reported. We have already had a procession in front of the army in which Gen. Glória, Estácio de Alva Almeida had been subject of parades of Castilians, and we now learn that another revolutionary leader, Col. José Amâncio, has been subjected to similar annoyances.

The announcement of these outrages has elicited the return of refugees, about 2000 of whom are still said to be in Uruguay, and his caused many persons who had returned to Rio Grande to abandon again their homes.

On the 18th inst. Gen. Glória left Pelotas for the purpose of joining in Rio de Janeiro. Gen. Tavares accompanied him in his carriage to the quay and they were followed by 60 other carriages. A large multi-armed assembly of women, his departure and he was heartily cheered. In answer to a speech from Dr. Angelo D. Almeida, Glória said that he would always work for a lasting peace in the state of Rio Grande, of which he considers himself the emissary until sufficient is decided.

Gen. Sotomayor, *pro tempore* commander of the district, on assuming command issued an order which is said to have caused no dissension and an apprehension among the revolutionists.

The 9th battalion of Calpatria militia and the 21st cavalry have arrived at Pelotas, where they were paid and disbanded on the 21st inst. The 99th and 27th battalions of the national guard have also arrived at Pelotas.

It is stated that the irregular forces under the command of Col. João Rodrigues Moraes have been at Santa Maria will be transferred to the state service. The report has excited much discontent among the men, many of whom have deserted.

It is said to be John de Castilho's intention to increase his military brigade in a division. His brigade for 1896 appraised at 1,350,135\$000 for his military brigade and 369,686\$000 for his police force.

His extensive military preparations have caused the revival of the report that he intends to promote the separation of Rio Grande from the Brazilian republic. We do not believe, however, that there is any truth in the report, unless there is a plot among the jacobins for the secession, under certain contingencies, of the four states of São Paulo, Paraná, Santa Catharina and Rio Grande. If Rio Grande should withdraw from the union, the Castilians would be driven from office in less than a week.

Gen. Hyppolito has returned to Livramento with money for paying his troops who, it is reported, will be disbanded with the exception of those under the command of João Francisco.

The retaining of João Francisco's men under arms is certainly a bad sign. Another bad sign is the congratulation of Gen. Sotomayor upon his assuming command of the district by the military club at Porto Alegre, which is composed of extreme partisans of Castilho.

Dr. Adriano Ribeiro, brother of Demétrio R. Ribeiro and a warm friend of Silveira Martins, has arrived at Pelotas. His object is probably to inform himself thoroughly by means of a personal observation, of the present state of affairs in Rio Grande.

It is said that the government is preparing to withdraw many of the troops now stationed in the state.

## RAILROAD NOTES

—The inauguration of the line between Uberaba and Uberlândia, Minas Geraes, took place on the 21st inst.

—A London exchange says that the Atlas Works have received an order for eight locomotives for the São Paulo Railway Co.

—There was a derailment at Divisa on the Central on the evening of the 19th, but no serious damage was done. Traffic was interrupted for nearly three hours.

—A derailment occurred on the Paulista line near Divisa on the 12th inst., causing the death of a fireman of a freight train. The tender and two wagons went off the line, and traffic was interrupted for some time.

—A writer in one of the daily papers says that on the Central railway a conveyance of a ton of freight to the distance of a kilometre cost 42 reis. Some times it costs more—the total value of the goods.

—In our last issue, under the head of "Railroad Notes," we published an item, taken from the local press, in regard to the arrival of five locomotives "from Europe" for the Bahia and São Paulo railway. We are now advised by the representatives of the locomotive that these five locomotives are from the Baldwin Locomotive Works, and not from Europe. We make the correction with pleasure.



—There was an accident on the Rio Clara branch of the Paulista railway on the 15th inst. A train carrying a locomotive and two passenger cars (Leigler). No one was killed but the driver, conductor and several passengers were wounded.

—The shareholders of the Porto Novo do Rio Paulo have resolved on the 5th inst. to accept the proposal of Messrs. Siemens & Kalke, of Berlin, for the construction of that line. These gentlemen offer to provide two-thirds of the capital required for the shareholders to complete the line.

—A contract is about to be signed for restaurant coaches on the Central railway. It has taken a very long time to carry out in Brazil what is a common feature on railways everywhere else. In Argentina the traveller can breakfast and dine during the journey, not only with comfort, but cheaply. On the Buenos Aires and Rosario line we have had as good dinners, and as well served, as we could have had in a hotel; later, perhaps, than in most hotels.

—On the 21st a special Senate committee reported a project (No. 70) for the lease of the Central railway. It provides that the leased and other lands of property will continue under state ownership, and that all rolling stock, furniture, equipment, etc., shall be valued and sold to the person or persons leasing the road. The lease will be made up to public tenders, having six months' notice, and must accept the following conditions: a) The payment of the assessed value of all movable property; b) The continuation of the double track under construction to Para do Praty; c) The widening of the gauge of the S. Paulo branch to 5.00 m; d) The prolongation of the main line to Pirapora on the Rio S. Francisco; e) To deliver the coal and all other property, with an indemnification, to the state at the termination of the contract. The lessees will be entitled to construct another line for subliminal traffic, and will have the privilege of extending present branches, or constructing new ones. The government may impose other conditions if necessary among which will be: (1) periods for the conclusion of new works; (2) the use of the lines by the government in cases of necessity; (3) conditions under which the contract may be renewed; and (4) provisions for the support of municipalities which the company may wish to employ. The tender must accept all the conditions of the *alô*, the competition being only upon the rental. The government is also authorized to sell other lands to the states in which they are located, or to lease them as herein provided.

## LOCAL NOTES

We take much pleasure in wishing our subscribers and friends a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. There is good fortune enough for all, and we trust that not one of them may miss his fall share.

—Things are surely beginning to look favorable for Brother Baxter.

—On the 21st a treaty of extradition was signed between Brazil and Holland.

—General Galvão is expected to arrive here today from Rio Grande do Sul.

—It was so hot yesterday that even the lottery-ticket hawkers were silent.

—The sessions of Congress have been again prolonged, this time to the 10th inst.

—It is expected that Vice-President Manoel Vitorino will pass the summer in Petropolis.

—Capt. Alexandrino de Alencar arrived last Sunday from Rio Grande do Sul on the steamer *Itaipava*.

—We see by one of our exchanges that the American minister in London, Mr. Bayard, was a guest of St. John Pender in October last.

—On the 17th inst. the obituary record gave "Achyro" as the cause of one of the deaths. What is "Achyro"? may we ask?

—The district judge has non-suited Gen. Caldas in his effort to prosecute the director of the penitentiary where he was confined during the revolt.

—The note of the British minister proposing arbitration in the Trinidad question, was submitted to the President and his cabinet on the 19th inst.

—The new treaty between Brazil and Bolivia should be signed today. It is a treaty of commerce, trade-marks, extradition, exchange of judicial acts, etc.

—It would seem that the continued insanity of Dr. Aristides Lobo, one of the fathers of the present regime, will lead his colleagues to declare vacant his seat in the Senate.

—The 35th battalion of infantry arrived here from Rio Grande on the 20th and was lodged in the barracks in Santa Antonio hill. The battalion numbers 335 officers and men.

—We see by one of our exchanges that it has been arranged at *reforma* to submit the dispute between Italy and Brazil to the arbitration of the President of the United States.

—The men who are seeking to promote war between the United States and Great Britain, so matter where they reside, ought to be restrained in their liberty, for they must be insane, or enemies of their kind.

—What has become of that scheme to found a municipal theatre and a municipal theatrical company? We hear nothing more about it. Is it that the treasury is empty, or the heads of its promoters?

—A meeting, said to have been thinly attended, was held on Friday on Lago de S. Francisco de Paula for the purpose of congratulating President Cleveland on his Venezuelan message. The speakers were all Jacobins.

—It appears that the minister of marine will not comply with Capt. Garcez Palha's request for a court of inquiry unless the latter's accusations produce the documents on which they allege that their charges are founded.

—From all appearances our intelligent lawmakers have completely lost their heads over the proposed tariff. The schedule increase, the exchange basis, the collection of gold and the surtaxes have completely upset them.

—Barão do Lathario not having responded to the first appeal of Capt. Garcez Palha, the latter in yesterday's paper addressed him a second open letter renewing his request and asking for an answer within 48 hours.

—It is expected that the first bill given by the new Petropolis club—called the Club das Danças—will be held on the 31st inst. If it does not come off on that date, it will in all probability be postponed until next year.

—Congressional precipitancy in approving President Cleveland's message will not tend to help solve the Trinidad dispute. If the government now refuses arbitration, Lord Salisbury will probably await events before going further.

—In the Senate on the 18th charges were preferred against Capt. Garcez Palha for supplying the insurgents with maps and other documents during the revolt. The minister of marine, however, declines to take notice of it until the proofs are placed before him.

—The *Journal do Commercio* says that the minister of foreign affairs received the vote of the British minister, proposing arbitration, on the 17th inst. It was accompanied by the dispatch to the foreign office, and is said to be highly complimentary in character.

—They have a social club in São Paulo called the Club das Consolidações (Consolidation Club). But, gentle reader, you are quite mistaken. When you have finished smiling, we would say that Consolidação is the name of one of São Paulo's aristocratic suburbs.

—Col. Tullio Ribeiro, commander of the 4th regiment of cavalry, and Col. Goulphim, commander of the 8th, have, by order of the war department, exchanged commands. We congratulate the state of Minas Geraes and conclude with that of Rio Grande do Sul.

—In addition to 7 deaths from yellow fever on the 17th, there were 6 deaths from *accessio putrida*, sometimes called "heat fever." The intense heat and the unsanitary condition of the streets, together with the delay of the water to have the streets washed, is the cause of this.

—The precipitancy with which Congress approved President Cleveland's message on the 10th is a sign of the distrustfulness of the men who form the dominant party in Brazil. It exhibits want of judgment, want of tact, and inability to comprehend even the simplest problems of government.

—Capt. Garcez Palha has written an open letter to Barão do Lathario appealing to his self-respect and to the responsibility entailed by the high position he occupies, to place the maps of fortifications, attributed to the writer, where they can be examined by experts and to state who furnished him those maps.

—The United States is already paying day for day for Cleveland's electioneering device. The panic on Wall Street on Friday, and the great depression in American securities in Europe, are witnesses to this fact. The men who are parties to this trick, or craze, ought to be banished forever from public life as no longer worthy of public confidence.

—Yellow fever is steadily increasing in this city, there having been 37 deaths reported for the week ending Sunday last. This makes 88 since the beginning of the month, or an average of four a day. There have also been many deaths from *accessio putrida* and smallpox, the latter being stationary. The heat has been intense for the last four or five days.

—The United States has been for some years a pronounced advocate of arbitration and has constantly endeavored to induce the other American republics to consent to settle all their controversies in that way. Suddenly we find the teacher has forgotten his lesson and is raising the banner of old methods just as striving arbitration had never been mentioned.

—Deputy Thomaz Delfino, who is one of the shining lights of Jacobinism, tells us in his speech of the 17th, that Brazil is a civilized country. Quite so; but where are the indications? Are we to look in the savage murders of Desterro, Paraná and Ilha Buzenquim for them, or to the pillaging of the treasury which has been going on for the last four or five years?

—We are under many obligations to the well-known stationers and publishers Leuzinger Imãos & Co. for the attractive specimens of calendars for 1896 which they have so courteously sent to this office. The excellent quality of the work and the convenience of these calendars, particularly for business offices, need no demonstration at our hands, for they are known to everyone.

—The President was honored with a visit from a commission of São Paulo students last week, who came down to explain the difficulties between themselves and one of their professors. After enlightening the President on the subject and instructing him a little on the "morality" of Brazilian education and on the principles of republican government, they went away again.

—The Senate, it would appear, is becoming more and more Jacobin in its tendencies. The other day it refused to ask for information in regard to the murder of the Carvalho brothers at Desterro; now it refuses to investigate the secret transmission of 400,000 to Admiral Gonçalves at Montevideo. The Senate prefers to protect crime and speculation, than to attempt to do justice.

—The government has transferred Col. Goulphim to a command in Rio Grande do Sul. This is a serious mistake in view of the discordant condition of affairs in that state. Col. Goulphim was in command at Magé during the revolt, and is accused of being the author of many aggressions and abuses against citizens and private property. Such men should be kept out of Rio Grande.

—In view of Barão do Lathario's charges Capt. Garcez Palha has very properly tendered his resignation of his position as secretary of the minister of marine and demanded a court of inquiry. This is a lesson to such officers as Admiral Jeronymo Gonçalves, Gen. Quadros and Col. Moreira Cesar, against whom the gravest charges have been made without their taking the necessary steps to vindicate their honor.

—What next! A poor fellow was denied admission to the public garden of the Campo de Aclimação on the evening of the 17th because he wore no cravat. Are these ill-mannered municipal guards to be constituted public censors as to dress and manners? It is had enough for a train conductor or a policeman to eject people from the train because of the want of a cravat, but if the guardkeepers in our public gardens are to do the same, then it is time for another revolution!

—Some days ago Condego Elnardo Christof, residing at No. 72, Rua da Misericórdia, was robbed of 6,000\$. The thief was discovered and, on being arrested, confessed having committed the crime, to which, he said, he had been instigated by an evil spirit. He deposited the money, perhaps at the instigation of the same evil spirit, in the Banco da República, to which he went on Wednesday, accompanied by a detective, and, drawing the money, restored it to the owner. The same evil spirit will now instigate the congo to decline prosecuting the thief.

—On the 10th the Chamber of Deputies unanimously adopted the following resolution, which was presented by Deputy Glycerio: "The Chamber of Deputies of the United States of Brazil felicitates the House of Representatives of the American Union on the worthy message of President Cleveland, who so nobly and handsomely defends the rights, the sovereignty and the liberty of the American nations, concerned in the Monroe doctrine." The Senate also adopted a similar resolution, likewise unanimously. There seems to be noteworthy precipitation in all this.

—The Americans are receiving so little credit in the native press for anything else but the quixotic Monroe doctrine, that the *Journal* will permit us a small correction of its "error" of the 18th in regard to David Starr Jordan. The *Journal* calls him an Englishman. Mr. Jordan, however, is an American, a native of the state of New York, a college-bred man, Dr. O. A. Derby and the editor of this paper, and is at present the president of the Island Stanford University of California. Personally, we are accustomed to him, called an Englishman, a Canadian and a Frenchman, as we do not mind it, but with President Jordan it is quite a different thing. It might hurt his *brins*.

—President Cleveland will be glad to know that the Club Militar held a meeting on the evening of the 10th, under the presidency of General Quadros of Paraná nobility, and unanimously adopted the following resolution: "The Club Militar, renouncing in general assembly, declares itself profoundly indignant over the intervention of the national Congress in the resolutions referring to the American questions, approving and corroborating the message in this respect directed by the Citizen President of the Republic of the United States of North America." This of course settles it! Now let the Club Jacobino come out and elect Citizen Cleveland an honorary member!

—The minister of marine has ordered a court of inquiry to investigate the alleged disrespectful and insubordinate conduct of Lieut. Barros Cobra towards Admiral Jeronymo Gonçalves and other superior officers. We presume that the order of the minister is due to the fact of Lieut. Barros Cobra's having related to the editor of the *Gazeta da Tarde* what occurred at Villegagnon when Admiral Jeronymo and his suite attempted to take command of the fort, and on board the English steamer on which the admiral took passage for the River Plate. There is probably no article in the regulations prohibiting an officer from taking a fact and the command consequently, we suppose, and that Barros Cobra is a guilty of the offence with which he is charged. The investigation, however, will offer an excellent opportunity to Admiral Jeronymo to prove by means of witnesses and officially place on record what really occurred at Villegagnon. The court of inquiry, which the minister has ordered for Barros Cobra, should have long since been demanded by Jeronymo himself in relation to his conduct not only at Villegagnon but also in Santa Catharina.

## DEATH.

STRECH. In this city, on the 14th inst., D. Carlos S. Strech, second son of Andrew Strech, of this city, aged 52 years. Deeply lamented.

## BUSINESS NOTES

—The opening of the projected industrial expedition to Pará has been fixed for November 15, 1897.

—The official value of the exports from Pará to Europe and the United States in November, was 6,796,373\$164.

—A provisional guarantee for three years was given on the 19th to Reginaldo Paes Barreto for a civil-air motor of his invention.

—That boiler near the Estação Publica has attracted the attention of the bill stickers, who seem disposed to make it useful as well as ornamental.

—Two steamers recently arrived at Rio Grande from Montevideo brought 12,861 bags of maize—a product which Rio Grande ought to export rather than import.

—The directory of the Associação Commercial went to the Senate on the 19th to deliver a representation against the collection of one-third of the duties in gold.

—The price paid for the Hotel d'Oleães, at Petropolis, by the Rio de Janeiro state government was 300,000\$, for which the proprietor should feel modestly satisfied.

—It would be interesting to know just how long it would take to have its contract modified, were the City Improvements service transferred to a national company.

—The government is about to establish a factory for making Manlicher and Mauser cartridges, the machinery for this purpose being now on its way out from Europe.

—The exports of rubber from Pará in November amounted to 2,909 tons, of which 1,295 tons went to Europe and 1,613 tons to the United States. The total for the same month of 1894 was 2,338 tons. The receipts during the month were 2,000 tons, and the stock on hand Dec. 1st 140 tons.

—Impositions of drugs and medicines have protested against the proposed new duties.

—The German steamer *Assonion* sailed for Hamburg on the 16th inst., with 65,899 bags of coffee shipped here and at Santos. This cargo ranks among the largest shipped from the country.

—The directors of the Rio de Janeiro Flour Mills and Granaries have decided to recommend the payment of a dividend of 75.61 per share, free of income-tax, for the period ended September 30th last.

—A French naval engineer named d'Amby has invented a presalvage for use as fuel in ocean steamers. It is not affected by temperature, is smokeless and odorless, cannot evaporate or cause explosions, and burns only on the surface, giving out intense heat, and leaving only from two to three per cent. ash. A ton of this fuel is equal to thirty tons of coal, and costs between five and ten dollars.

—The *Journal* of the 20th complains that although there is a regulation in force prohibiting all vessels from coming alongside the quays and piers, during the hot season, on American vessels loaded with material for the Suly company has been permitted to come alongside in the Gamby station and is there discharging. The *Journal* regrets that it is one of the privileges conferred by the Monroe doctrine.

—The *Journal* gave us some interesting information on the 18th on the cost of certain drugs and the duties paid on them, but the typesetter and proof-reader seem to have spoiled the facts completely. Would it not be well to have the figures repeated? Is it true that chloroform is of quinine costs 75\$ a kilo? and if so, how is it that a tax of 75\$500 per kilo is rated as 100 per cent? There are several of these errors. If we are to consider these questions intelligently, we ought to have reliable information about them.

—The prospects of the cotton factories of the city, who are crushing themselves through the imposition of heavy import duties on imported cotton bales, have presented a message of congratulation to Deputy José Carlos de Carvalho for his inspired defense of their interests. For the defenders of monopoly, privilege and wealth there are always rewards, for the beneficiaries have something tangible to divide. But for the poor, who are made poorer by high prices and monopolies, there is no one to apologize or to relent.

—In connection with the report of the Congress should provide some legal recourse against extortion. As the case now stands the customs-house official classifies merchandise according to his own sweet will, and if you appeal you are referred to a commission in the customs-house which generally supports the decisions of the *confiscante*. Lately we have been obliged to pay the rate for calendar paper on an invoice of uncalendered paper, and I have no remedy for it. Is it a time to give us some protection against these impositions?

—Men have a curious way of reasoning sometimes. Thomaz Delfino, for instance, wants the import duties raised over a hundred per cent, and all sorts of new taxes levied on the people so that new guns and war ships, and uniforms can be bought. But when it comes to modifying the compensation of the foreign company enlisted with the district of this city, a most important and necessary service, he says that we must not be hard-nosed to the people who are already overtaxed! It is incomprehensible how men can be such hypocrites.

—The directors of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company have ordered from Messrs. Harland & Wolff, Ltd., Belfast, a new twin screw steamship, of steel, similar to the *Oriz*, but with greater speed, for their Santos mail service. They are building also another boat for their cargo service, to carry 6,000 tons, to replace the *Itaipava*, and to maintain their regular sailings between this coast and Liverpool. These, together with the splendid new passenger steamers being constructed for the west coast, make four new vessels, which may be expected soon to augment the magnificent fleet of this company.

—The public and private lighting of the city of São Paulo affords the following statistical data, as collected by the *Reporter*: The São Paulo Gas Co. possesses over 14 kilometers of gas pipes and illuminates an area of 20 kilometers in circumference. Its public service requires 2,433 lights of 9 candle power. Its private service uses that of 5,774 gas metres are in use. Its daily production of gas averages 12,000 cubic metres, in which 37 tons of common coal and 5 tons of canal coal are consumed. The electric lighting company (Agua e Luz) possesses five kilometers of wire and is supplying about 700 lights of varying power.

—Deputy Thomaz Delfino says that the government has scrupulously observed its contract with the City Improvements Co. Is this true? If the government grants higher rates to certain companies because of currency depreciation, then it is bound to do the same by others. A government must be impartial, in order to be just. Has the government done this toward the City Improvements Co.? Everyone knows it has not! And yet the company has continued its important service, receiving depreciated currency, or about one-third of what it is entitled to, and going without dividends for the last three or four years! Is this honest? It is for the company—but certainly not for the government.

—We have said elsewhere that a war between Great Britain and the United States will injure the commerce of all nations. It will do worse. Think of the situation here in Brazil. Such a war will suspend the export of American breadstuffs and cotton, and the waste of war will increase the consumption. This means higher prices everywhere. Our food and clothing will become excessively dear. The loss of the American cotton supply will raise the price of raw cotton everywhere, and this will increase the cost of cotton fabrics made here in Brazil. It will also diminish the consumption of cotton because Great Britain will seek to prevent its going to the United States, where over one-half of the Brazilian crop is consumed. So too with rubber and hides. It means high prices, lower incomes, distress and misery even here in Brazil. War between two such nations will not be child's play, nor a picnic; it will be wholesale destruction and misery, a calamity which can not be repaired in half a century.





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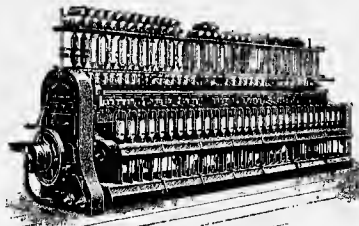
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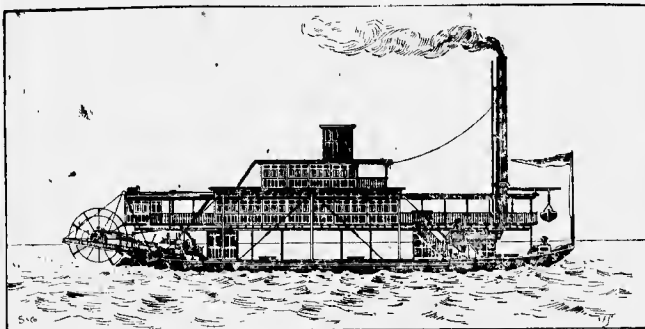
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